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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/923,820	08/06/2001	Robert E. Novak	10003.000210 (digeo 131.1	1869
32641	7590	02/08/2005		
DIGEO, INC C/O STOEL RIVES LLP 201 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 1100 ONE UTAH CENTER SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111			EXAMINER HANNETT, JAMES M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2612	
DATE MAILED: 02/08/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/923,820

Applicant(s)

NOVAK, ROBERT E.

Examiner

James M Hannett

Art Unit

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-79 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-79 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 August 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/2001-5/2004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION***Drawings***

The drawings are objected to because Figures 12-20 are hand drawn. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Art Unit: 2612

1: Claims 1, 4-17, 19, 20, 23, 26-38, 40, 41, 44-46, 49, 51, 52, 55-59, 62, 64, 65, 68-70, 72, 73, and 76-79 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by USPN 6,606,422 Dulin et al.

2: As for Claim 1, Dulin et al teaches and depicts in Figures 5 and 6 a method of capturing an image by use of a camera (20), the method comprising: placing a scene within a field of vision of a wide angle lens coupled to the camera; (Column 1, Lines 37-53) Dulin et al teaches the use of capturing an image with a camera that has a large field of view. This is viewed by the examiner as a wide-angle lens camera. Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 14-20 storing image data of the scene in an image collection array. The image collection array is viewed by the examiner as the matrix of pixels in the image sensor. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 50-55 digitizing the scene image data into a digitized scene image data and storing the digitized scene image data in memory (22). Dulin et al teaches that the camera can supply a high definition digital signal to an image memory (22). Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 selecting a plurality of subsets of the digitized scene image data; Dulin et al teaches that if the communications link contains a return channel, the user can specify a fraction of the overall image which contains the window in which the user wishes to see. Furthermore, Dulin et al teaches that multiple users can select regions. This is viewed by the examiner as selecting a plurality of subsets of the image. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that before the selected images are transmitted to the client's the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping. Performing compression, edge correction, and warping is viewed by the examiner to be additional processing.

Art Unit: 2612

3: In regards to Claim 4, Dulin et al teaches on Column 1, Lines 54-65 that the subsets correspond to a focus area in the scene. Dulin et al teaches that due to the wide field of view of the camera the entire wide image is in focus. Dulin et al further teaches that all of the regions selected by the users correspond to regions within the in focus wide field of view image.

4: As for Claim 5, Dulin et al teaches on column 2, Lines 43-52 the camera is used to transmit images on a network. Dulin et al teaches that the images can be transmitted over the Internet. It is viewed by the examiner that the internet is a network.

5: In regards to Claim 6, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 the camera is communicatively coupled to a set top box that is capable of transmitting images over data streams in a network. Dulin et al teaches that image data is collected from a high definition camera and is then digitized and stored image memory. Dulin et al teaches that after the image data is stored image circuitry is used which performs compression and edge correction and transmits a selected region of the image based on a signal from a remote user. Dulin et al does not specifically state that the processing and transmitting is performed in a **set top box**.

However, it is viewed by the examiner that the term **set top box** is extremely broad.

Furthermore, the examiner views the device that performs the compression and transmitting as being a set top box.

6: As for Claim 7, Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 50-67 the selecting the subsets is controlled by a set top box that is capable to transmit images across a network. Dulin et al teaches that after the image is digitized and stored in memory, the remote users can select a window of the image to be transmitted to them. Then processing circuitry is used to select the subset of the image and transmit the image over the internet to the remote users. Dulin et al does

Art Unit: 2612

not specifically state that the selecting the subsets and transmitting is performed in a **set top box**.

However, it is viewed by the examiner that the term **set top box** is extremely broad.

Furthermore, the examiner views the device that performs the selection and transmitting as being a set top box.

7: In regards to Claim 8, Dulin et al teaches on column 2, Lines 43-52 the camera is used to transmit images on a network. Dulin et al teaches selecting a plurality of subsets of the digitized scene image data. The limitation that selection the subsets is controlled by the camera is very broad. Furthermore, the examiner asserts that the camera can be viewed as the entire system, Therefore, the camera controls the selecting of the subsets.

8: As for Claim 9, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-60 the selecting the subsets is controlled by a processor device. Dulin et al teaches that the selecting is performed by processing. Therefore, Dulin et al teaches that the selecting of the subsets is controlled by a processor device.

9: In regards to Claim 10, Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping. The Examiner views compression, edge correction, and warping as requiring processing. Therefore, the compression, edge correction, and warping is controlled by a processor device.

10: As for Claim 11, Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping before it is transmitted on the internet. The Examiner views compression, edge correction, and warping as requiring

Art Unit: 2612

processing. Therefore, the compression, edge correction, and warping is controlled by a processor device. Dulin et al does not specifically state that the selecting the additional processing is performed in a **set top box**. However, it is viewed by the examiner that the term **set top box** is extremely broad. Furthermore, the examiner views the device that performs the additional processing and transmitting as being a set top box.

11: In regards to Claim 12, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a camera captures a digital image and then stores the digital image in a system in which remote users can send a command to have a subset of the image transmitted to them remotely over the internet. Therefore, Dulin et al teaches the use of a camera, a system that performs selection of the subsets and a transmitter. Although Dulin et al does not recite the specific words set top box and companion box, the examiner asserts that the applicant does not limit these terms in the claim and that they are viewed by the examiner as being extremely broad. In the system of Dulin et al, the camera is communicatively coupled to a companion box (which is viewed by the examiner as being the circuitry to control selection of the subsets and compression). Furthermore after the image data is compressed it is sent to a transmitter that transmits the data over the internet. Therefore, the circuitry that compresses the data controls the transmitter in that the transmitter does not transmit data until it is compressed. Furthermore, the examiner views the transmitting device to be viewed as a set top box.

12: As for Claim 13, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a camera captures a digital image and then stores the digital image in a system in which remote users can send a command to have a subset of the image transmitted to them remotely over the internet. Therefore, Dulin et al teaches the use of a camera, a system that performs selection of the subsets and a transmitter.

Art Unit: 2612

Although Dulin et al does not recite the specific words set top box and companion box, the examiner asserts that the applicant does not limit these terms in the claim and that they are viewed by the examiner as being extremely broad. In the system of Dulin et al, the camera is communicatively coupled to a companion box (which is viewed by the examiner as being the circuitry to control selection of the subsets and compression). Furthermore after the image data is compressed it is sent to a transmitter that transmits the data over the internet. Therefore, the circuitry that compresses the data controls the transmitter in that the transmitter does not transmit data until it is compressed. Furthermore, the examiner views the transmitting device to be viewed as a set top box.

13: In regards to Claim 14, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a camera captures a digital image and then stores the digital image in a system in which remote users can send a command to have a subset of the image transmitted to them remotely over the internet. Therefore, Dulin et al teaches the use of a camera, a system that performs selection of the subsets, a system for performing compression and edge correction processing, and a transmitter. Although Dulin et al does not recite the specific words set top box and companion box, the examiner asserts that the applicant does not limit these terms in the claim and that they are viewed by the examiner as being extremely broad. In the system of Dulin et al, the camera is communicatively coupled to a companion box (which is viewed by the examiner as being the circuitry to perform compression and edge correction). Furthermore after the image data is compressed it is sent to a transmitter that transmits the data over the internet. Therefore, the circuitry that compresses the data controls the transmitter in that the transmitter does not transmit data until it is compressed. Furthermore, the examiner views the transmitting device to be viewed as a set top box.

Art Unit: 2612

14: As for Claim 15, Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 51-63 the process of performing correction of the edges of the selected image. This process is viewed by the examiner as additional processing. Furthermore, this process is viewed as performing distortion compensation on the elected subset of the digital scene image data.

15: In regards to Claim 16, Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 51-67 the process of performing compression on the selected image. This process is viewed by the examiner as additional processing..

16: As for Claim 17, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 53-60 transmitting the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data to a destination device. The destination device is viewed by the examiner as the remote user on a home computer.

17: In regards to Claim 19, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 wherein one of the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data is selected based on a location relative to another one of the selected subsets. The examiner asserts that all of the possible selected regions of the image will be in a location that is relative to all of the other subsets.

18: As for Claim 20, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 that a signal is received from a remote user and a region of the high definition image is selected based on the signal received from the user. This is viewed by the examiner as a command signal.

19: In regards to Claim 23, Dulin et al teaches and depicts in Figures 5 and 6 a method of capturing an image by use of a camera (20), the method comprising: placing a scene within a field of vision of a wide angle lens coupled to the camera; (Column 1, Lines 37-53) Dulin et al teaches the use of capturing an image with a camera that has a large field of view. This is viewed by the examiner as a wide-angle lens camera. Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 14-20

Art Unit: 2612

storing image data of the scene in an image collection array. The image collection array is viewed by the examiner as the matrix of pixels in the image sensor. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 50-55 digitizing the scene image data into a digitized scene image data and storing the digitized scene image data in memory (22). Dulin et al teaches that the camera can supply a high definition digital signal to an image memory (22). Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 selecting a plurality of subsets of the digitized scene image data; Dulin et al teaches that if the communications link contains a return channel, the user can specify a fraction of the overall image which contains the window in which the user wishes to see. Furthermore, Dulin et al teaches that multiple users can select regions. This is viewed by the examiner as selecting a plurality of subsets of the image. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that before the selected images are transmitted to the client's the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping. Performing compression, edge correction, and warping is viewed by the examiner to be additional processing.

20: As for Claim 26, Dulin et al teaches on Column 1, Lines 54-65 that the subsets correspond to a focus area in the scene. Dulin et al teaches that due to the wide field of view of the camera the entire wide image is in focus. Dulin et al further teaches that all of the regions selected by the users correspond to regions within the in focus wide field of view image.

21: In regards to Claim 27, Dulin et al teaches on column 2, Lines 43-52 the camera is used to transmit images on a network. Dulin et al teaches that the images can be transmitted over the Internet. It is viewed by the examiner that the internet is a network.

Art Unit: 2612

22: As for Claim 28, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 the camera is communicatively coupled to a set top box that is capable of transmitting images over data streams in a network. Dulin et al teaches that image data is collected from a high definition camera and is then digitized and stored image memory. Dulin et al teaches that after the image data is stored image circuitry is used which performs compression and edge correction and transmits a selected region of the image based on a signal from a remote user. Dulin et al does not specifically state that the processing and transmitting is performed in a **set top box**.

However, it is viewed by the examiner that the term **set top box** is extremely broad.

Furthermore, the examiner views the device that performs the compression and transmitting as being a set top box.

23: In regards to Claim 29, Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 50-67 the selecting the subsets is controlled by a set top box that is capable to transmit images across a network. Dulin et al teaches that after the image is digitized and stored in memory, the remote users can select a window of the image to be transmitted to them. Then processing circuitry is used to select the subset of the image and transmit the image over the internet to the remote users. Dulin et al does not specifically state that the selecting the subsets and transmitting is performed in a **set top box**.

However, it is viewed by the examiner that the term **set top box** is extremely broad.

Furthermore, the examiner views the device that performs the selection and transmitting as being a set top box.

24: As for Claim 30, Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping before it is transmitted on

Art Unit: 2612

the internet. The Examiner views compression, edge correction, and warping as requiring processing. Therefore, the compression, edge correction, and warping is controlled by a processor device. Dulin et al does not specifically state that the selecting the additional processing is performed in a **set top box**. However, it is viewed by the examiner that the term **set top box** is extremely broad. Furthermore, the examiner views the device that performs the additional processing and transmitting as being a set top box.

25: In regards to Claim 31, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a camera captures a digital image and then stores the digital image in a system in which remote users can send a command to have a subset of the image transmitted to them remotely over the internet. Therefore, Dulin et al teaches the use of a camera, a system that performs selection of the subsets and a transmitter. Although Dulin et al does not recite the specific words set top box and companion box, the examiner asserts that the applicant does not limit these terms in the claim and that they are viewed by the examiner as being extremely broad. In the system of Dulin et al, the camera is communicatively coupled to a companion box (which is viewed by the examiner as being the circuitry to control selection of the subsets and compression). Furthermore after the image data is compressed it is sent to a transmitter that transmits the data over the internet. Therefore, the circuitry that compresses the data controls the transmitter in that the transmitter does not transmit data until it is compressed. Furthermore, the examiner views the transmitting device to be viewed as a set top box.

26: As for Claim 32, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a camera captures a digital image and then stores the digital image in a system in which remote users can send a command to have a subset of the image transmitted to them remotely over the internet. Therefore, Dulin et al

Art Unit: 2612

teaches the use of a camera, a system that performs selection of the subsets and a transmitter. Although Dulin et al does not recite the specific words set top box and companion box, the examiner asserts that the applicant does not limit these terms in the claim and that they are viewed by the examiner as being extremely broad. In the system of Dulin et al, the camera is communicatively coupled to a companion box (which is viewed by the examiner as being the circuitry to control selection of the subsets and compression). Furthermore after the image data is compressed it is sent to a transmitter that transmits the data over the internet. Therefore, the circuitry that compresses the data controls the transmitter in that the transmitter does not transmit data until it is compressed. Furthermore, the examiner views the transmitting device to be viewed as a set top box.

27: In regards to Claim 33, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a camera captures a digital image and then stores the digital image in a system in which remote users can send a command to have a subset of the image transmitted to them remotely over the internet. Therefore, Dulin et al teaches the use of a camera, a system that performs selection of the subsets, a system for performing compression and edge correction processing, and a transmitter. Although Dulin et al does not recite the specific words set top box and companion box, the examiner asserts that the applicant does not limit these terms in the claim and that they are viewed by the examiner as being extremely broad. In the system of Dulin et al, the camera is communicatively coupled to a companion box (which is viewed by the examiner as being the circuitry to perform compression and edge correction). Furthermore after the image data is compressed it is sent to a transmitter that transmits the data over the internet. Therefore, the circuitry that compresses the data controls

Art Unit: 2612

the transmitter in that the transmitter does not transmit data until it is compressed. Furthermore, the examiner views the transmitting device to be viewed as a set top box.

28: As for Claim 34, Dulin et al teaches that image data from a camera compressed and edge corrected using processing techniques. Therefore, the camera is communicatively coupled to a processing device.

29: In regards to Claim 35, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-60 the selecting the subsets is controlled by a processor device. Dulin et al teaches that the selecting is performed by processing. Therefore, Dulin et al teaches that the selecting of the subsets is controlled by a processor device.

30: As for Claim 36, Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping. The Examiner views compression, edge correction, and warping as requiring processing. Therefore, the compression, edge correction, and warping is controlled by a processor device.

31: In regards to Claim 37, Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 51-67 the process of performing compression on the selected image. This process is viewed by the examiner as additional processing..

32: As for Claim 38, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 53-60 transmitting the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data to a destination device. The destination device is viewed by the examiner as the remote user on a home computer.

33: In regards to Claim 40, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 wherein one of the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data is selected based on a location relative to

Art Unit: 2612

another one of the selected subsets. The examiner asserts that all of the possible selected regions of the image will be in a location that is relative to all of the other subsets.

34: As for Claim 41, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 that a signal is received from a remote user and a region of the high definition image is selected based on the signal received from the user. This is viewed by the examiner as a command signal.

35: In regards to Claim 44, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 14-20 storing image data of the scene in an image collection array. The image collection array is viewed by the examiner as the matrix of pixels in the image sensor. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 50-55 digitizing the scene image data into a digitized scene image data and storing the digitized scene image data in memory (22). Dulin et al teaches that the camera can supply a high definition digital signal to an image memory (22). Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 selecting a plurality of subsets of the digitized scene image data; Dulin et al teaches that if the communications link contains a return channel, the user can specify a fraction of the overall image which contains the window in which the user wishes to see. Furthermore, Dulin et al teaches that multiple users can select regions. This is viewed by the examiner as selecting a plurality of subsets of the image. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that before the selected images are transmitted to the client's the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping. Performing compression, edge correction, and warping is viewed by the examiner to be additional processing.

36: As for Claim 45, Dulin et al teaches and depicts in Figures 5 and 6 a method of capturing an image by use of a camera (20), the method comprising: placing a scene within a field of

Art Unit: 2612

vision of a wide angle lens coupled to the camera; (Column 1, Lines 37-53) Dulin et al teaches the use of capturing an image with a camera that has a large field of view. This is viewed by the examiner as a wide-angle lens camera. Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 14-20 storing image data of the scene in an image collection array. The image collection array is viewed by the examiner as the matrix of pixels in the image sensor. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 50-55 digitizing the scene image data into a digitized scene image data and storing the digitized scene image data in memory (22). Dulin et al teaches that the camera can supply a high definition digital signal to an image memory (22). Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 selecting a plurality of subsets of the digitized scene image data; Dulin et al teaches that if the communications link contains a return channel, the user can specify a fraction of the overall image which contains the window in which the user wishes to see. Furthermore, Dulin et al teaches that multiple users can select regions. This is viewed by the examiner as selecting a plurality of subsets of the image. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that before the selected images are transmitted to the client's the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping. Performing compression, edge correction, and warping is viewed by the examiner to be additional processing.

37: In regards to Claim 46, Dulin et al teaches and depicts in Figures 5 and 6 a method of capturing an image by use of a camera (20), the method comprising: placing a scene within a field of vision of a wide angle lens coupled to the camera; (Column 1, Lines 37-53) Dulin et al teaches the use of capturing an image with a camera that has a large field of view. This is viewed by the examiner as a wide-angle lens camera. Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 14-20

Art Unit: 2612

storing image data of the scene in an image collection array. The image collection array is viewed by the examiner as the matrix of pixels in the image sensor. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 50-55 digitizing the scene image data into a digitized scene image data and storing the digitized scene image data in memory (22). Dulin et al teaches that the camera can supply a high definition digital signal to an image memory (22). Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 selecting a plurality of subsets of the digitized scene image data; Dulin et al teaches that if the communications link contains a return channel, the user can specify a fraction of the overall image which contains the window in which the user wishes to see. Furthermore, Dulin et al teaches that multiple users can select regions. This is viewed by the examiner as selecting a plurality of subsets of the image. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that before the selected images are transmitted to the client's the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping. Performing compression, edge correction, and warping is viewed by the examiner to be additional processing. Dulin et al does not specifically state that a webcam engine is used to select the plurality of subsets. However, Dulin et al does state that the subsets can be selected by users over the internet. Therefore, it is viewed by the examiner that the circuitry to select the subsets is a webcam engine since it is used over the internet.

38: As for Claim 49, Dulin et al teaches on Column 1, Lines 54-65 that the subsets correspond to a focus area in the scene. Dulin et al teaches that due to the wide field of view of the camera the entire wide image is in focus. Dulin et al further teaches that all of the regions selected by the users correspond to regions within the in focus wide field of view image.

Art Unit: 2612

39: In regards to Claim 51, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 wherein one of the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data is selected based on a location relative to another one of the selected subsets. The examiner asserts that all of the possible selected regions of the image will be in a location that is relative to all of the other subsets.

40: As for Claim 52, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 that a signal is received from a remote user and a region of the high definition image is selected based on the signal received from the user. This is viewed by the examiner as a command signal.

41: In regards to Claim 55, Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 51-63 the process of performing correction of the edges of the selected image. This process is viewed by the examiner as additional processing. Furthermore, this process is viewed as performing distortion compensation on the elected subset of the digital scene image data.

42: As for Claim 56, The examiner views the limitation “the unit is a set top box” as extremely broad and therefore, views the system to perform region selection, compression and transmitting as being a set top box.

43: In regards to Claim 57, Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that before the selected images are transmitted to the client’s the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping. Therefore, the examiner views the circuitry and software used to perform these processes as being a processor.

44: As for Claim 58, The examiner views the limitation “the unit is a companion box” as extremely broad and therefore, views the system to perform region selection, compression and transmitting as being a companion box.

Art Unit: 2612

45: In regards to Claim 59, Dulin et al teaches and depicts in Figures 5 and 6 a method of capturing an image by use of a camera (20), the method comprising: placing a scene within a field of vision of a wide angle lens coupled to the camera; (Column 1, Lines 37-53) Dulin et al teaches the use of capturing an image with a camera that has a large field of view. This is viewed by the examiner as a wide-angle lens camera. Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 14-20 storing image data of the scene in an image collection array. The image collection array is viewed by the examiner as the matrix of pixels in the image sensor. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 50-55 digitizing the scene image data into a digitized scene image data and storing the digitized scene image data in memory (22). Dulin et al teaches that the camera can supply a high definition digital signal to an image memory (22). Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 selecting a plurality of subsets of the digitized scene image data; Dulin et al teaches that if the communications link contains a return channel, the user can specify a fraction of the overall image which contains the window in which the user wishes to see. Furthermore, Dulin et al teaches that multiple users can select regions. This is viewed by the examiner as selecting a plurality of subsets of the image. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that before the selected images are transmitted to the client's the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping. Performing compression, edge correction, and warping is viewed by the examiner to be additional processing.

46: As for Claim 62, Dulin et al teaches on Column 1, Lines 54-65 that the subsets correspond to a focus area in the scene. Dulin et al teaches that due to the wide field of view of

the camera the entire wide image is in focus. Dulin et al further teaches that all of the regions selected by the users correspond to regions within the in focus wide field of view image.

47: In regards to Claim 64, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 wherein one of the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data is selected based on a location relative to another one of the selected subsets. The examiner asserts that all of the possible selected regions of the image will be in a location that is relative to all of the other subsets.

48: As for Claim 65, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 that a signal is received from a remote user and a region of the high definition image is selected based on the signal received from the user. This is viewed by the examiner as a command signal.

49: In regards to Claim 68, Dulin et al does not specifically state that a webcam engine is used to select the plurality of subsets. However, Dulin et al does state that the subsets can be selected by users over the internet. Therefore, it is viewed by the examiner that the circuitry to select the subsets is a webcam engine since it is used over the internet.

50: As for Claim 69, Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 51-63 the process of performing correction of the edges of the selected image. This process is viewed by the examiner as additional processing. Furthermore, this process is viewed as performing distortion compensation on the elected subset of the digital scene image data.

51: In regards to Claim 70, Dulin et al teaches and depicts in Figures 5 and 6 a method of capturing an image by use of a camera (20), the method comprising: placing a scene within a field of vision of a wide angle lens coupled to the camera; (Column 1, Lines 37-53) Dulin et al teaches the use of capturing an image with a camera that has a large field of view. This is viewed by the examiner as a wide-angle lens camera. Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 14-20

Art Unit: 2612

storing image data of the scene in an image collection array. The image collection array is viewed by the examiner as the matrix of pixels in the image sensor. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 50-55 digitizing the scene image data into a digitized scene image data and storing the digitized scene image data in memory (22). Dulin et al teaches that the camera can supply a high definition digital signal to an image memory (22). Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 selecting a plurality of subsets of the digitized scene image data; Dulin et al teaches that if the communications link contains a return channel, the user can specify a fraction of the overall image which contains the window in which the user wishes to see. Furthermore, Dulin et al teaches that multiple users can select regions. This is viewed by the examiner as selecting a plurality of subsets of the image. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that before the selected images are transmitted to the client's the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping. Performing compression, edge correction, and warping is viewed by the examiner to be additional processing. Dulin et al does not specifically state that a webcam engine is used to select the plurality of subsets. However, Dulin et al does state that the subsets can be selected by users over the internet. Therefore, it is viewed by the examiner that the circuitry to select the subsets is a webcam engine since it is used over the internet. Simulating a function of the digital camera is viewed as panning and tilting of the camera by selecting a region of the captured image.

52: As for Claim 72, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 wherein one of the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data is selected based on a location relative to

another one of the selected subsets. The examiner asserts that all of the possible selected regions of the image will be in a location that is relative to all of the other subsets.

53: In regards to Claim 73, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 that a signal is received from a remote user and a region of the high definition image is selected based on the signal received from the user. This is viewed by the examiner as a command signal.

54: As for Claim 76, Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that before the selected images are transmitted to the client's the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping. Performing edge correction is viewed by the examiner as performing distortion compensation.

55: In regards to Claim 77, Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 53-60 transmitting the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data to a destination device. The destination device is viewed by the examiner as the remote user on a home computer.

56: As for Claim 78, Dulin et al teaches and depicts in Figures 5 and 6 a method of capturing an image by use of a camera (20), the method comprising: placing a scene within a field of vision of a wide angle lens coupled to the camera; (Column 1, Lines 37-53) Dulin et al teaches the use of capturing an image with a camera that has a large field of view. This is viewed by the examiner as a wide-angle lens camera. Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 14-20 storing image data of the scene in an image collection array. The image collection array is viewed by the examiner as the matrix of pixels in the image sensor. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 50-55 digitizing the scene image data into a digitized scene image data and storing the digitized scene image data in memory (22). Dulin et al teaches that the camera can supply a high

Art Unit: 2612

definition digital signal to an image memory (22). Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 selecting a plurality of subsets of the digitized scene image data; Dulin et al teaches that if the communications link contains a return channel, the user can specify a fraction of the overall image which contains the window in which the user wishes to see. Furthermore, Dulin et al teaches that multiple users can select regions. This is viewed by the examiner as selecting a plurality of subsets of the image. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that before the selected images are transmitted to the client's the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping. Performing compression, edge correction, and warping is viewed by the examiner to be additional processing.

57: In regards to Claim 79, Dulin et al teaches and depicts in Figures 5 and 6 a method of capturing an image by use of a camera (20), the method comprising: placing a scene within a field of vision of a wide angle lens coupled to the camera; (Column 1, Lines 37-53) Dulin et al teaches the use of capturing an image with a camera that has a large field of view. This is viewed by the examiner as a wide-angle lens camera. Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 14-20 storing image data of the scene in an image collection array. The image collection array is viewed by the examiner as the matrix of pixels in the image sensor. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 50-55 digitizing the scene image data into a digitized scene image data and storing the digitized scene image data in memory (22). Dulin et al teaches that the camera can supply a high definition digital signal to an image memory (22). Dulin et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 43-52 selecting a plurality of subsets of the digitized scene image data; Dulin et al teaches that if the communications link contains a return channel, the user can specify a fraction

Art Unit: 2612

of the overall image which contains the window in which the user wishes to see. Furthermore, Dulin et al teaches that multiple users can select regions. This is viewed by the examiner as selecting a plurality of subsets of the image. Dulin et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 57-67 performing additional processing on the selected subsets of the digitized scene image data. Dulin et al teaches that before the selected images are transmitted to the client's the image data is subjected to compression, edge correction, and warping. Performing compression, edge correction, and warping is viewed by the examiner to be additional processing.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

58: Claims 2, 24, 47 and 60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 6,606,422 Dulin et al.

59: As for Claim 2, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the internet. Dulin et al does not specifically state that the plurality of regions selected by the users are selected serially. Furthermore, if the users select the regions at different instances in times, the regions would be selected serially.

Official notice is taken that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made to allow users to select the images at different incidents in time.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the users of the system of Dulin et al to select the regions at different times and therefore causing the regions to be selected serially.

60: In regards to Claim 24, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the internet. Dulin et al does not specifically state that the plurality of regions selected by the users are selected serially. Furthermore, if the users select the regions at different instances in times, the regions would be selected serially.

Official notice is taken that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made to allow users to select the images at different incidents in time.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the users of the system of Dulin et al to select the regions at different times and therefore causing the regions to be selected serially.

61: As for Claim 47, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the internet. Dulin et al does not specifically state that the plurality of regions selected by the users are selected serially. Furthermore, if the users select the regions at different instances in times, the regions would be selected serially.

Official notice is taken that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made to allow users to select the images at different incidents in time.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the users of the system of Dulin et al to select the regions at different times and therefore causing the regions to be selected serially.

62: In regards to Claim 60, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the internet. Dulin et al does not specifically state that the plurality of regions selected by the users are selected serially. Furthermore, if the users select the regions at different instances in times, the regions would be selected serially.

Official notice is taken that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made to allow users to select the images at different incidents in time.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the users of the system of Dulin et al to select the regions at different times and therefore causing the regions to be selected serially.

63: Claims 3, 21, 22, 25, 42, 43, 48, 53, 54, 61, 66, 67, 74 and 75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 6,606,422 Dulin et al in view of USPN 6,727,940 Oka et al.

64: As for Claim 3, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the regions selected by the remote users can be integrated to form one integrated output image.

Oka et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-42 and depict in Figure 15B a system in which a plurality of users over a network can each select a sub-region of an image. Oka et al teaches that in order to save bandwidth a composite output image (1504) which composes all of the regions selected by the users is formed and then the composite output image (1504) is output to all of the users. Oka et al teaches that this method is advantageous because it simplifies the system design by allowing one image (1504) to be transmitted by the system. Furthermore, Oka et al teaches that this method is advantageous because it reduces the required bandwidth of the system.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the system of Dulin et al to form a composite image from all of the selected regions by the users as taught by Oka et al in order to simplify the system design and to reduce the required bandwidth of the system.

65: In regards to Claim 21, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the Internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the regions selected by the remote users can be overlapping.

Oka et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-42 and depict in Figure 15B a system in which a plurality of users over a network can each select sub-regions of an image. Oka et al teaches that the regions selected by the user can overlap as depicted in Figure 15N by regions (1506 and 1507). It is advantageous to allow the users to select regions that overlap so that different users will be able to view the same region of the image at the same time.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the remote users in the system of Dulin et al to select overlapping

Art Unit: 2612

regions as taught by Oka et al in order to allow the users to select regions that overlap so that different users will be able to view the same region of the image at the same time.

66: As for Claim 22, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the Internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the Internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the regions selected by the remote users can be non-overlapping.

Oka et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-42 and depict in Figure 15B a system in which a plurality of users over a network can each select sub-regions of an image. Oka et al teaches that the regions selected by the user can be non-overlapping as depicted in Figure 15N by regions (1506 and 1508). It is advantageous to allow the users to select regions that do not overlap so that different users will be able to view different region of the image at the same time.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the remote users in the system of Dulin et al to select non-overlapping regions as taught by Oka et al in order to allow the users to select regions that do not overlap so that different users will be able to view different regions of the image at the same time.

67: In regards to Claim 25, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the regions selected by the remote users can be integrated to form one integrated output image.

Oka et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-42 and depict in Figure 15B a system in which a plurality of users over a network can each select a sub-region of an image. Oka et al teaches that in order to save bandwidth a composite output image (1504) which composes all of the regions selected by the users is formed and then the composite output image (1504) is output to all of the users. Oka et al teaches that this method is advantageous because it simplifies the system design by allowing one image (1504) to be transmitted by the system. Furthermore, Oka et al teaches that this method is advantageous because it reduces the required bandwidth of the system.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the system of Dulin et al to form a composite image from all of the selected regions by the users as taught by Oka et al in order to simplify the system design and to reduce the required bandwidth of the system.

68: As for Claim 42, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the Internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the regions selected by the remote users can be overlapping.

Oka et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-42 and depict in Figure 15B a system in which a plurality of users over a network can each select sub-regions of an image. Oka et al teaches that the regions selected by the user can overlap as depicted in Figure 15N by regions (1506 and 1507). It is advantageous to allow the users to select regions that overlap so that different users will be able to view the same region of the image at the same time.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the remote users in the system of Dulin et al to select overlapping

Art Unit: 2612

regions as taught by Oka et al in order to allow the users to select regions that overlap so that different users will be able to view the same region of the image at the same time.

69: In regards to Claim 43, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the Internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the Internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the regions selected by the remote users can be non-overlapping.

Oka et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-42 and depict in Figure 15B a system in which a plurality of users over a network can each select sub-regions of an image. Oka et al teaches that the regions selected by the user can be non-overlapping as depicted in Figure 15N by regions (1506 and 1508). It is advantageous to allow the users to select regions that do not overlap so that different users will be able to view different region of the image at the same time.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the remote users in the system of Dulin et al to select non-overlapping regions as taught by Oka et al in order to allow the users to select regions that do not overlap so that different users will be able to view different regions of the image at the same time.

70: As for Claim 48, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the regions selected by the remote users can be integrated to form one integrated output image.

Oka et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-42 and depict in Figure 15B a system in which a plurality of users over a network can each select a sub-region of an image. Oka et al teaches that in order to save bandwidth a composite output image (1504) which composes all of the regions selected by the users is formed and then the composite output image (1504) is output to all of the users. Oka et al teaches that this method is advantageous because it simplifies the system design by allowing one image (1504) to be transmitted by the system. Furthermore, Oka et al teaches that this method is advantageous because it reduces the required bandwidth of the system.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the system of Dulin et al to form a composite image from all of the selected regions by the users as taught by Oka et al in order to simplify the system design and to reduce the required bandwidth of the system.

71: In regards to Claim 53, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the Internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the regions selected by the remote users can be overlapping.

Oka et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-42 and depict in Figure 15B a system in which a plurality of users over a network can each select sub-regions of an image. Oka et al teaches that the regions selected by the user can overlap as depicted in Figure 15N by regions (1506 and 1507). It is advantageous to allow the users to select regions that overlap so that different users will be able to view the same region of the image at the same time.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the remote users in the system of Dulin et al to select overlapping regions as

Art Unit: 2612

taught by Oka et al in order to allow the users to select regions that overlap so that different users will be able to view the same region of the image at the same time.

72: As for Claim 54, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the Internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the Internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the regions selected by the remote users can be non-overlapping.

Oka et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-42 and depict in Figure 15B a system in which a plurality of users over a network can each select sub-regions of an image. Oka et al teaches that the regions selected by the user can be non-overlapping as depicted in Figure 15N by regions (1506 and 1508). It is advantageous to allow the users to select regions that do not overlap so that different users will be able to view different region of the image at the same time.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the remote users in the system of Dulin et al to select non-overlapping regions as taught by Oka et al in order to allow the users to select regions that do not overlap so that different users will be able to view different regions of the image at the same time.

73: In regards to Claim 61, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the regions selected by the remote users can be integrated to form one integrated output image.

Oka et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-42 and depict in Figure 15B a system in which a plurality of users over a network can each select a sub-region of an image. Oka et al teaches that in order to save bandwidth a composite output image (1504) which composes all of the regions selected by the users is formed and then the composite output image (1504) is output to all of the users. Oka et al teaches that this method is advantageous because it simplifies the system design by allowing one image (1504) to be transmitted by the system. Furthermore, Oka et al teaches that this method is advantageous because it reduces the required bandwidth of the system.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the system of Dulin et al to form a composite image from all of the selected regions by the users as taught by Oka et al in order to simplify the system design and to reduce the required bandwidth of the system.

74: As for Claim 66, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the Internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the regions selected by the remote users can be overlapping.

Oka et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-42 and depict in Figure 15B a system in which a plurality of users over a network can each select sub-regions of an image. Oka et al teaches that the regions selected by the user can overlap as depicted in Figure 15N by regions (1506 and 1507). It is advantageous to allow the users to select regions that overlap so that different users will be able to view the same region of the image at the same time.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the remote users in the system of Dulin et al to select overlapping regions as

taught by Oka et al in order to allow the users to select regions that overlap so that different users will be able to view the same region of the image at the same time.

75: In regards to Claim 67, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the Internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the Internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the regions selected by the remote users can be non-overlapping.

Oka et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-42 and depict in Figure 15B a system in which a plurality of users over a network can each select sub-regions of an image. Oka et al teaches that the regions selected by the user can be non-overlapping as depicted in Figure 15N by regions (1506 and 1508). It is advantageous to allow the users to select regions that do not overlap so that different users will be able to view different region of the image at the same time.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the remote users in the system of Dulin et al to select non-overlapping regions as taught by Oka et al in order to allow the users to select regions that do not overlap so that different users will be able to view different regions of the image at the same time.

76: As for Claim 74, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the Internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the regions selected by the remote users can be overlapping.

Oka et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-42 and depict in Figure 15B a system in which a plurality of users over a network can each select sub-regions of an image. Oka et al teaches that

Art Unit: 2612

the regions selected by the user can overlap as depicted in Figure 15N by regions (1506 and 1507). It is advantageous to allow the users to select regions that overlap so that different users will be able to view the same region of the image at the same time.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the remote users in the system of Dulin et al to select overlapping regions as taught by Oka et al in order to allow the users to select regions that overlap so that different users will be able to view the same region of the image at the same time.

77: In regards to Claim 75, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and remote users over the Internet can select regions within the image to be transmitted to their individual computers over the Internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the regions selected by the remote users can be non-overlapping.

Oka et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-42 and depict in Figure 15B a system in which a plurality of users over a network can each select sub-regions of an image. Oka et al teaches that the regions selected by the user can be non-overlapping as depicted in Figure 15N by regions (1506 and 1508). It is advantageous to allow the users to select regions that do not overlap so that different users will be able to view different region of the image at the same time.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the remote users in the system of Dulin et al to select non-overlapping regions as taught by Oka et al in order to allow the users to select regions that do not overlap so that different users will be able to view different regions of the image at the same time.

Art Unit: 2612

78: Claims 18, 39, 50, 63 and 71 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 6,606,422 Dulin et al in view of USPN 6,507,366 Lee.

79: As for Claim 18, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and subsets of the image are sent to remote users over the internet. Dulin et al teaches that the selected region is selected by a user over the internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the selected regions can be selected based on detected activity in the scene.

Lee teaches on Column 2, Line 66 – Column 3, Line 27 the use of a camera system in which a motion detector detects motion in a field of view of a camera and pans and tilts the camera accordingly so that the region that contains the activity is imaged by the camera. Lee teaches that this method is advantageous because it allows the region of interest that contains the moving object to be the image that is captured by the camera.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the users in the camera system of Dulin et al to automatically select the region (electronically control pan and tilt angle) of the image based on the detected activity in the scene as taught by Lee, In order to allow the region of interest that contains the moving object to be the image that is captured by the camera.

80: In regards to Claim 39, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and subsets of the image are sent to remote users over the internet. Dulin et al teaches that the selected region is selected by a user over the internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the selected regions can be selected based on detected activity in the scene.

Lee teaches on Column 2, Line 66 – Column 3, Line 27 the use of a camera system in which a motion detector detects motion in a field of view of a camera and pans and tilts the

Art Unit: 2612

camera accordingly so that the region that contains the activity is images by the camera. Lee teaches that this method is advantageous because it allows the region of interest that contains the moving object to be the image that is captured by the camera.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the users in the camera system of Dulin et al to automatically select the region (electronically control pan and tilt angle) of the image based on the detected activity in the scene as taught by Lee, In order to allow the region of interest that contains the moving object to be the image that is captured by the camera.

81: As for Claim 50, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and subsets of the image are sent to remote users over the internet. Dulin et al teaches that the selected region is selected by a user over the internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the selected regions can be selected based on detected activity in the scene.

Lee teaches on Column 2, Line 66 – Column 3, Line 27 the use of a camera system in which a motion detector detects motion in a field of view of a camera and pans and tilts the camera accordingly so that the region that contains the activity is images by the camera. Lee teaches that this method is advantageous because it allows the region of interest that contains the moving object to be the image that is captured by the camera.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the users in the camera system of Dulin et al to automatically select the region (electronically control pan and tilt angle) of the image based on the detected activity in the scene as taught by Lee, In order to allow the region of interest that contains the moving object to be the image that is captured by the camera.

Art Unit: 2612

82: In regards to Claim 63, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and subsets of the image are sent to remote users over the internet. Dulin et al teaches that the selected region is selected by a user over the internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the selected regions can be selected based on detected activity in the scene.

Lee teaches on Column 2, Line 66 – Column 3, Line 27 the use of a camera system in which a motion detector detects motion in a field of view of a camera and pans and tilts the camera accordingly so that the region that contains the activity is images by the camera. Lee teaches that this method is advantageous because it allows the region of interest that contains the moving object to be the image that is captured by the camera.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the users in the camera system of Dulin et al to automatically select the region (electronically control pan and tilt angle) of the image based on the detected activity in the scene as taught by Lee, In order to allow the region of interest that contains the moving object to be the image that is captured by the camera.

83: As for Claim 71, Dulin et al teaches a system in which a wide field of view image is captured by a camera and subsets of the image are sent to remote users over the internet. Dulin et al teaches that the selected region is selected by a user over the internet. However, Dulin et al does not teach that the selected regions can be selected based on detected activity in the scene.

Lee teaches on Column 2, Line 66 – Column 3, Line 27 the use of a camera system in which a motion detector detects motion in a field of view of a camera and pans and tilts the camera accordingly so that the region that contains the activity is images by the camera. Lee

teaches that this method is advantageous because it allows the region of interest that contains the moving object to be the image that is captured by the camera.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the users in the camera system of Dulin et al to automatically select the region (electronically control pan and tilt angle) of the image based on the detected activity in the scene as taught by Lee, In order to allow the region of interest that contains the moving object to be the image that is captured by the camera.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US 2003/0025803 Nakamura et al; USPN 6,567,121 Kuno; USPN 6,297,846 Edanami.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James M Hannett whose telephone number is 703-305-7880 or 571-272-7309. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:00 pm M-F.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on 703-305-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2612

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James M. Hannett
Examiner
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JMH
January 31, 2005


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